



Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance • AFL-CIO

SEATTLE CHAPTER
P.O. Box 84269 • Seattle, WA 98124

April 24, 2010

Brothers and Sisters:

In 1919 the Seattle AFL Unions declared a general strike. The Japanese Labor Association joined the strike despite being excluded from the AFL Unions. They joined because, in the words of the Director of the Association, "no matter what jobs we occupy and what our nationality . . . there should be no borders for laborers and we should do our duty in helping to win this fight." Today, the labor movement, immigrant communities and progressive people everywhere stand as one in demanding a fair and responsible immigration system.

On behalf of APALA Seattle I would like to invite you to join us at our annual Fundraising Banquet as we continue to fight for immigrant rights. Your support will help us continue to lobby on behalf of immigrant students, like Alonso Chehade, who are fighting deportation even while mobilizing for comprehensive immigration reform including passage of the DREAM Act. As a part of APALA's program to recruit young people to the labor movement, APALA Seattle took 10 students to the 2009 APALA National Convention. At the Convention, students from across the country learned about the labor movement and met with union activists to share their ideas about the future of labor organizing. When the AFL-CIO held its first national Workers Rights Hearings in November 2009, APALA Seattle was there. (See, blog.aflcio.org and search "Asian worker hearing") We also supported young activists on delegations to Venezuela and Cuba in Worker to Worker exchanges. As a part of APALA's educational program, we sponsored book parties for *Sweat Shop Slaves: Asian Americans in the Garment Industry* and *Undocumented Undergrads: UCLA Undocumented Immigrant Students*, both featuring student research and writing. This spring we will recruit and send more young students and union members to the annual APALA Organizing Institute. Please join us for dinner and entertainment and help us continue this work.

Date: June 4, 5:30 pm

Place: **Brockey Center, South Seattle Community College**
6000 16th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98106-1499

Tickets are \$50.00 for current 2010 members of APALA and \$65.00 for non-members.

The Program Book: This year will include "Recipes From Our Mothers" – recipes for Asian dishes that our mothers have passed on to us. Since sharing food is a primary way culture and traditions are passed on, we want share a part of our culture with a wider community. We hope this will make the Program Book something folks will keep with them and the advertisements in the Book will have a more lasting impression among APALA supporters. Copy-ready ads may be sent electronically to Mel Kang (email below). The Program Book rates are:

\$400.00 for a full page
\$200 for a half page
\$100 for a quarter page

Silent Auction: We are also soliciting for items for our Silent Auction. If you can donate merchandise, collectibles or services for this auction, please contact Mel Kang, melkang@msn.com or 206 790 3222. We can pick up the items.

It's exciting to bring together labor and community groups on the issue of immigrant worker justice. Your support for this event will make this possible. We look forward to your local's involvement in this timely and invigorating event.

In Solidarity,

Tracy Lai, President
Seattle APALA